Docket

COTT citizens

ASPSF 13.1.1

2

M/S 532

OCT 20 1983

Jay Becker
Beachcomber Press, Incorporated
Post Office Box 447
Vashon, Washington 98070

Dear Mr. Becker:

Please excuse the delay in responding to your letter of September 1, 1983 and enclosure. It is my conclusion that the numbers you listed in the enclosed rough draft are pretty much in the ballpark. The numbers are expected to vary somewhat, depending upon the source.

EPA is currently developing revised (and more accurate) arsenic stack and fugitive emissions estimates which should be available to the public this week. Preliminary estimates indicate they will be considerably lower than originally reported.

Smelter slag is not dumped into Commencement Bay as was done in the past to form the landfill on which the Tacoma Yacht Club clubhouse is located. The slag is either dumped and cooled or granulated to form a saleable product which is marketed by Industrial Mineral Products for such uses as roadway material and sandblasting medium. In the dumping operation the slag is poured fom the pots and formed into a layer which is broken up within 24 hours, further cooled and sent to market. The granulation operation produces a product of small sand-like particles by impinging a jet of water on the molten slag as it is slowly poured from the pots. The slag dumping operation which causes occasional opacity violations, is being phased out in favor of granulation. The latter operation complies with local, state and federal opacity regulations. The slag contains about 0.8-1.2 percent arsenic.

Alternate smelting technology, such as the Inco smelting process, is available which would reduce sulfur dioxide emissions to about ten percent of input sulfur. This technology would also reduce arsenic emissions significantly. To resolve the sulfur dioxide and arsenic emissions problems and comply with their regulations, the Board of Directors of the Puget Sound Air Pollution Control Agency (PSAPCA) has ordered ASARCO to decide on installing alternate smelting technology by October 1984 and to complete installation of the technology by July 1987. If you need further information about this activity, I suggest you call Jim Nolan, Air Pollution Engineer with PSAPCA, at 344-7355.

Final:Hooper:kaf:10/19/83:#5081X

I hope this information will be of assistance. If you have any further questions or comments regarding ASARCO, please feel free to call me at 442-1949.

Sincerely,

Mark H. Hooper
Chemical Engineer